



www.lsc.ohio.gov

OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

S.B. 340
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Kunze and Fedor

Helena Volzer, Attorney

SUMMARY

- Requires places that sell alcohol for beverage purposes to display a warning sign about fetal alcohol syndrome.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Fetal alcohol syndrome warning

The bill requires all places that sell any form of alcohol for beverage purposes to display a printed warning card regarding fetal alcohol syndrome. The warning must be displayed in a prominent place on the premises and must read substantially as follows:

“FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME WARNING: THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL DURING PREGNANCY MAY RESULT IN BIRTH DEFECTS.”¹

The Division of Liquor Control must create and issue the printed card, which must be at least 8 ½ x 11 inches. As part of a liquor permit premises inspection, the bill requires a Division inspector to determine whether the premises is properly displaying the card and note that determination on the inspection form. The Division must post the determination on its website.²

Under current law, places that sell alcohol for beverage purposes are required to post a similar warning regarding the penalty for purchasing alcohol under the legally permissible age. However, no one is subject to criminal prosecution or any proceedings before the Division or the Liquor Control Commission for failing to display the warning card. In addition, the Division cannot suspend, revoke, or cancel a liquor permit because of the failure of the permit holder to

¹ R.C. 4301.637(C)(1).

² R.C. 4301.637(C)(2) and (3).

display the card.³ The bill applies these same provisions to the failure to display the warning card regarding fetal alcohol syndrome.⁴

Technical change

Current law requires each D liquor permit premises to display a warning card that explains the prohibition against possessing a firearm in such a premises. The required warning card must reference the criminal penalty that may be imposed on a person who violates the prohibition.⁵ However, the referenced penalty is inconsistent with the law that establishes the penalty. The penalty imposed can range from six months to three years, based on whether the violation is a third or fifth degree felony.⁶ But, current law requires the warning card to reference “a prison term of up to one year.” The bill corrects this error.⁷

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	07-21-20

S0340-I-133/ec

³ R.C. 4301.637(A).

⁴ R.C. 4301.637(C)(4).

⁵ R.C. 4301.637(B).

⁶ R.C. 2923.121(E), not in the bill.

⁷ R.C. 4301.637(B).